

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 EB-11 L-03 COME-00 TRSE-00 AGR-20

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DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN:LAPEZZULLO:PW

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APPROVED BY ARA:WGBOWDLER

ARA/USOAS:FMCNEIL (INFO)

EB/ICD/TRP:HWANNING (INFO)

L/ARA:DGANTZ (INFO)

LA/GC:JMARQUEZ (INFO)

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O R 062009Z SEP 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 177203

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, ECON, HON

SUBJECT: SUGAR PURCHASE

REFERENCE: A) TEGUCIGALPA 3373; B) STATE 168889;

C) MANAGUA 3630

1. WE REGRET THAT LOPEZ HAS DECIDED TO GO FORWARD WITH CUBAN SUGAR PURCHASE. WE WERE HOPEFUL THAT SOME ARRANGEMENT COULD BE MADE WITH NICARAGUA TO TIDE GOH OVER UNTIL NEW HARVEST. AT THIS JUNCTURE WE HAVE TWO CONCERNS: A) THAT DISCUSSIONS WITH NICARAGUANS HAVE EXHAUSTED ALL POSSIBILITIES TO SATISFY GOH NEEDS; AND B) THAT LOPEZ IS MADE FULLY AWARE OF CONSEQUENCES OF CUBAN PURCHASE.

2. FOR MANAGUA: ON POINT A) WE SUGGEST THAT EMBASSY NICARAGUA BRING LOPEZ LATEST POSITION TO THE ATTENTION OF
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SOMOZA'S BUSINESS MANAGER AMADOR ON THE OFF CHANCE THAT HE

HAS BEEN ABLE TO LOCATE SOME OTHER SUGAR STOCKS WHICH HE
COULD OFFER TO LOPEZ.

3. FOR TEGUCIGALPA: ON POINT B) WE ARE CONCERNED THAT
LOPEZ MAY NOT APPRECIATE FULLY THE POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF
CUBAN PURCHASE IN LIGHT OF STATEMENT IN REFERENCE A THAT HE
GAVE "NO HINT THAT HE ANTICIPATES ANY IMPORTANT INTERNAL
DIFFICULTIES OR REPERCUSSIONS FROM THE PURCHASE." AS WE
TRIED TO MAKE CLEAR IN REFERENCE B (PARA 4) THERE MAY BE
IMPORTANT REPERCUSSIONS ESPECIALLY WITH REGARD TO A FUTURE

SUGAR QUOTA FOR HONDURAS AND AID ASSISTANCE. TO ENSURE
THAT LOPEZ IS FULLY AWARE OF THESE CONSIDERATIONS SUGGEST
THAT YOU SEEK ANOTHER MEETING WITH HIM A) TO EXPRESS OUR
PROFOUND REGRET THAT GOH HAS DECIDED TO GO THROUGH WITH
CUBAN SUGAR DEAL AND B) TO REITERATE POINTS C AND D OF
PARAGRAPH 4 OF REFERENCE B. RUSH

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